From: Association Of Law Enforcement Intelligence Units (LEIU)
To: steague@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: The LEIU Executive Board - The Source
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Image

The LEIU Source is a weekly news publication brought to you by the LEIU Executive Board.

Each Wednesday, we share with you a few of the articles or intelligence-based publications that have come across our desk.

If you have a publication or an article that you feel needs to be shared, please send these to IntelligenceAnalysis@mac.com for review.

If you feel others at your department would benefit from receiving this publication, please forward this email. At the bottom of this publication is a link where they can add their email to the distribution list.

Wednesday 06/12/19

The Art of the Inquiry

Image

The Los Angeles Police Department's (LAPD's) foray into the world of science-based1interviewing began as many good crime stories do – with an unsolved murder and a suspect the cops couldn't crack. In a plot twist worthy of a Hollywood movie, the crime in question also involved a dismembered body and a case gone cold after two years with no arrest. Into the breach stepped two veteran detectives from the

LAPD’s Robbery-Homicide Division (RHD).

They were the first local law enforcement officers in the country to be trained in science-based interview methods that, in many ways, turned the age-old approach to police interviewing on its head. What follows is an exploration of what these methods have meant for one of the nation’s leading police departments and what the implications are for the rest of American law enforcement.

Feds announce massive bust of Aryan Brotherhood crime ring in California's prisons

Image

Federal prosecutors Thursday announced a massive operation targeting one of California's most notorious white nationalist prison gangs, unsealing numerous racketeering charges against 16 alleged members and associates of the so-called "Aryan Brotherhood."

In a 143-page criminal complaint, an undercover DEA agent maps out

an extensive organized crime network alleged to have orchestrated assassinations, weapons smuggling operations and drug trafficking across multiple states

At the center of the investigation are two of the three alleged members of the Aryan Brotherhood's leadership commission, Ronald Yandell, 56, and Daniel Troxell, 66. When the investigation started, both were already serving life sentences in prison for murder.

Corrections Canada turns to detection equipment to fight contraband drone drops

Image

Canada's federal prisons will soon have a new weapon against a threat from above: Drones delivering drugs, cellphones and other dangerous contraband inside prison walls.

The Correctional Service of Canada will be spending $6 million to install radar-based drone detection equipment at six facilities following

a spike in drone incidents.

Staff members have reported finding fragments of drones on prison grounds, or spotting the unmanned aerial devices flying above prison facilities at night.

Ghislain Sauvé, a director general with the Correctional Service of Canada, tells CBC News the prison service is fighting back.

Mob Still In NJ? 3 Big Organized Crime Cases In 2019

Image

"The Sopranos" are long gone but the words "crime family" and "mob" are still popping up in major criminal investigations that continue in New Jersey.

And it wasn't just the arrest of a New York man in Brick Township

earlier this year, in connection with the broad-daylight shooting of a reputed Gambino crime boss, that brought attention to something that remains a staple in New Jersey.

Indeed, one ongoing case involves suspects who allegedly have ties to La Cosa Nostra in Philadelphia and New Jersey. Those charged were Carl Chianese of Point Pleasant; Michael Gallicchio of Garfield; and Joseph Servidio of Upper Township, according to court documents.

The three allegedly ran a drug operation that distributed methamphetamine, heroin and fentanyl, according to court documents. Indeed, the court documents even use the words "mob" and "mafia" interchangably with La Cosa Nostra.

UN Staffers Detained in Kosovo as Part of Organized Crime Probe

Image

The head of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo harshly criticized the Kosovo police during Monday's UN Security Council meeting for the arrest of two UN staffers accused of hooliganism.

Miguel De Serpa Soares speaks with the UN Security Council (United Nations)The two were arrested on May 28 despite immunity granted to UN staff, according to Zahir Tanin, head of the mission. Police were also uncooperative in telling Tanin why the staffers had been arrested and consequently injured.

UN property was also illegally searched and seized during the operation and it's unclear if its been returned.

Nearly 400 arrested people in MPD organized crime investigation

Image

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (WMC) - The Memphis Police Department says the city is much safer thanks to two high level operations focusing on

violence and drugs.

“This was a major operation. I think this sends a message that this is not going to be tolerated by MPD, the district attorneys office or any other law enforcement agencies in Shelby County,” Shelby County Assistant District Attorney Reggie Henderson said.

At Monday’s press conference, Memphis Police Director Mike Rallings was flanked on both sides by tables covered in illegal guns seized off the streets.
“These firearms will be checked to see if they are connected to any other crimes,” Ralling said.

Operation Spring Cleaning was a 6-week proactive operation focusing on violent crime across the city.

Testimony: The narco threat to US security

Image

Thank you, very much, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to offer my views on the US counterdrug strategy. Last December, I told the Senate Judiciary Committee that the threat of illegal drug trafficking to US security has never been more dangerous—because of the depth, breadth, and wealth of criminal networks; the quality and quantity of the deadly drugs; and the inability or unwillingness of governments to confront the threat effectively.

Much of the instability in the region—including the mayhem in Central America that drives migrants to the southwest border—is sown by transnational organized crime. Confronting that dangerous threat requires more than better tactics. It demands a more intelligent strategy, adopted and implemented by dozens of allied governments around the world to choke off access to national territory and to the international financial system. A sobering fact is that transnational organized crime commands annual revenue of $2.2 trillion—about the gross domestic product of the nation of Mexico.

Chihuahua Governor: Criminals profiting from migrant trafficking over US-Mexico border

Image

The video reportedly taken in Sunland Park, N.M., was posted on Twitter on Sunday by Kolfage, a triple-amputee who raised the money for a privately funded steel bollard barrier on American Eagle Brick Co. property, in Sunland Park. The video was taken two miles from the private fence, Kolfage stated.

"We caught video of armed cartel member walking illegals into the USA. He's packing a gun in waist, then walks back into Mexico captured in Sunland Park NM! It's out of control! What is the city doing? NOTHING!," said Kolfage's tweet.

The U.S. Border Patrol today did not immediately comment on the video. Sunland Park Police Chief Javier Guerra was not available for comment Monday.

Corral said he didn't have an exact date of arrival for the National Guard, which has just been created by Mexican president Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador.

The Port of San Diego Harbor Police Department training demonstration

Image

The Port of San Diego Harbor Police Department is inviting the public to a live training demonstration on San Diego Bay on Thursday, June 13, 2019.

The demo will include a SWAT team intervention, coordinated vessel firefighting and a simulated dive team rescue which all will take place on a training vessel secured to Broadway Pier, according to police.

“This is a chance for the public to get a firsthand look at the specialized training and skills of our Harbor Police officers,” said Chief Mark Stainbrook, Port of San Diego Harbor Police Department. “You’ll get to see how we fight fires on the water, how our dive team operates, how our SWAT team solves tactical problems on vessels, and more. Bring your friends and family to experience this rare event.”

Police Officers

We are our own worst enemies

Image

It’s not uncommon here in Chicago to find a nice little restaurant where you can feel comfortable having your lunch break, breakfast, or dinner. The staff is friendly towards the police, the food is good, and they are reasonably priced. There may be a little corner where you can sit out of the way, so no one interrupts your meal and you aren’t exposed to all the dirty looks.

The problem is… you have to keep it to yourself and not tell too many other officers. If you don’t, sooner or later one of them is going to abuse the hospitality. He or she will complain about the food, making a big deal out of a minor issue. They might tip the staff poorly. They might be rude to customers or waitresses.

How Facial Recognition Makes You Safer

Image

In 1983, when I was sworn in as a police officer, many of the routine tasks of the trade would have seemed more familiar to a cop from my grandfather's day than to a new police academy graduate today. I took ink fingerprints on paper cards and used a Polaroid camera for mug shots. Reports were handwritten or typed on carbon triplicates. Biological evidence could be analyzed only in terms of blood type.

Technology has improved the profession beyond what the most imaginative officer could have conceived in those days. These innovations include facial recognition software, which has proved its worth as a crime-fighting resource since we adopted it in 2011. But the technology has also raised concerns about privacy, so the public should know how the New York Police Department uses its system — and the safeguards we have in place.

U.S. Government Says Traveler Photos Were Taken In Data Breach

Image

U.S. Customs and Border Protection said Monday that photos of travelers and license plates the agency has collected have been “compromised” after one of its subcontractors was hacked.

The federal law enforcement agency said in a statement that an unnamed subcontractor had transferred copies of images the government collected to its own company network and then was hit by “a malicious cyber-attack.” CBP, which learned of the breach late last month, said its systems were not affected.

Facial recognition smart glasses could make public surveillance discreet and ubiquitous

Image

From train stations and concert halls to sport stadiums and airports, facial recognition is slowly becoming the norm in public spaces. But new hardware formats like these facial recognition-enabled smart glasses could make the technology truly ubiquitous, able to be deployed by law enforcement and private security any time and any place.

The glasses themselves are made by American company Vuzix, while Dubai-based firm NNTC is providing the facial recognition algorithms and packaging the final product.

The technology has been dubbed iFalcon Face Control Mobile by NNTC. The AR glasses have an 8-megapixel camera embedded in the frame which allows the wearer to scan faces in a crowd and compare with a database of 1 million images. Notifications about positive matches are sent to the glasses' see-through display, embedded in the lens.

Drone Technology Helps Dodge County Law Enforcement

Image

Drone technology is giving law enforcement around the country and right here in Wisconsin a leg-up when it comes to solving crimes.

Dodge County Sheriff, Dale Schmidt, tells WTMJ's Melissa Barclay, that his department has been utilizing the high-flying machines for four years now.

"We use it for a number of different things, including search and rescue and anytime we have to do any recon. We've used it several times on cases where we are trying to locate somebody. We also use them for evidence collectors. They are good for overhead shots of crime scenes," said Schmidt.

Schmidt says in the future he'd like to upgrade the agency's drones with thermal imaging technology to better aid them during night

rescues and different types of searches.

Dark Web Drug Sellers Dodge Police Crackdowns

Image

SAN FRANCISCO — Authorities in the United States and Europe recently staged a wide-ranging crackdown on online drug markets, taking down Wall Street Market and Valhalla, two of the largest drug markets on the so-called dark web.

Yet the desire to score drugs from the comfort of home and to make money from selling those drugs appears for many to be stronger than the fear of getting arrested.

Despite enforcement actions over the last six years that led to the shutdown of about half a dozen sites — including the most recent two

— there are still close to 30 illegal online markets, according to DarknetLive, a news and information site for the dark web.

This week, customers could still score five grams of heroin — “first hand quality no mix” — for 0.021 Bitcoin (roughly $170), or a tenth of a gram of crack cocaine for 0.0017 Bitcoin (roughly $14) on the market known as Berlusconi.

EFF Will Voice Support For California Bill

Reining In Law Enforcement Use of Facial Recognition

Image

Sacramento, California—On Tuesday, June 11, at 8:30 am, EFF Grassroots Advocacy Organizer Nathan Sheard will testify before the California Senate Public Safety Committee in support of a measure to prohibit law enforcement from using facial recognition in body cams.

Following San Francisco’s historic ban on police use of the technology —which can invade privacy, chill free speech and disproportionately

harm already marginalized communities—California lawmakers are considering AB 1215, proposed legislation that would extend the ban across the state.

Face recognition technology has been shown to have disproportionately high error rates for women, the elderly, and people of color. Making matters worse, law enforcement agencies often rely on images pulled from mugshot databases. This exacerbates historical biases born of, and contributing to, over-policing in Black and Latinx neighborhoods. The San Francisco Board of Supervisors and other Bay Area communities have decided that police should be stopped from using the technology on the public.

A Big Data Siren For Law Enforcement Intelligence

Image

Law enforcement officers, detectives, private investigators and military intelligence staff have used an increasing amount of technology over

the years. Forensic fingerprinting arrived around 100 years ago, the first crime laboratories were established in the 1920s and the introduction of the two-way radio came not long after.

Modern policing technologies include in-car laptop computers, Optical Character Recognition (OCR) systems, drones and a variety of body-mounted equipment such as smartphones, cameras and GPS systems. With many of these technologies built to ruggedized standards, could the next weapon against crime be a softer software-based set of solutions?

Want to See My Genes? Get a Warrant

Image

Someone broke into a church in Centerville, Utah, last November and attacked the organist who was practicing there. In March, after a conventional investigation came up empty, a police detective turned to forensic consultants at Parabon NanoLabs. Using the publicly accessible website GEDmatch, the consultants found a likely distant

genetic relative of the suspect, whose blood sample had been found near the church's broken window.

Man Killed Business Associate, Wife and Kids Before Burying Their Remains in Calif. Desert

Image

A California businessman has been found guilty of brutally killing a family of four and dumping their bodies in shallow graves in the Mojave Desert.

The verdict in the murder case against Charles "Chase" Merritt was read in a San Bernardino courtroom today.

Merritt, 62, was convicted of killing his former business associate Joseph McStay, 40; Stay's wife, Summer, 43; and their two children: Gianni, 4, and Joseph Jr., 3. He could face the death penalty when he is sentenced.

The family went missing in 2010, four months after they moved into a new house in the San Diego suburb of Fallbrook, California.

The family's two beloved dogs, Bear and Digger, were left behind in the backyard, and nearly $100,000 remained untouched in Joseph's bank accounts (he ran a successful decorative-fountain business).

Drug Crisis Fueling Human Trafficking On Long Island

Image

The opioid crisis has been raging on Long Island for years, but law enforcement agencies are finding that it's helping to fuel another crisis: human trafficking.

"Long Island is one of the top 20 or 21 hot zones for human sex trafficking in the United States,' said Anthony Zenkus, of VIBS Family

Violence & Rape Crisis Center.

But the prevalence of opioid like fentanyl has only made the crisis worse, according to Zenkus.

“It’s not uncommon for traffickers, also known as pimps, to use opioid and other drugs to keep their victims dependent on them,” Zenkus said. “Opioids bind to the same receptors in our brain that get stimulated when we are held and loved as a child.”

The average age of victims brought into human trafficking is 12 to 14, Zenkus says, adding that they're all around us.

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If you have an article you would like to see featured in this publication please contact Brian Gray at intelligenceanalysis@mac.com

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